



## The Metropolitan Planning Commission of Nashville and Davidson County

### Presentation Tips

**The Planning Commission welcomes comments from the public on neighborhood and community plans, subdivision applications and zone change requests considered at its meetings. We hope you find these Presentation Tips useful if you plan to address the Commission.**

**Make the most of your time. Know your facts and be ready with the points you want to make.**

- Jot down your comments in advance so you will cover your most important points within the two (2) minutes allotted to each speaker. To help collect your thoughts, a simple outline is provided with this sheet.
- Focus your comments on one or two key points and state them simply and clearly.
- If you are speaking as part of a group, coordinate your group's presentation in advance so each speaker conveys useful information without repeating what's already been said.

**Share your specific knowledge of your community and give Planning Commissioners information they can use in making their decision. Below are examples of useful information you can provide.**

- Do you think a proposed land use is consistent with the long range plan for your community? Why or why not? The most detailed plan for your area – the community plan or a neighborhood design plan – sets the policy that guides land use decisions in your area. That plan, and its "land use policy", will be explained in the staff report.
- Are there any unique features about the development site that landowners and neighbors have direct experience with and Commissioners should be aware of? Examples might be the presence of caves or sinkholes, localized flooding from storm water runoff, or a specific traffic issue in the area.
- Are there concrete changes you'd suggest that would make the proposed development better serve the needs or maintain the character of the surrounding community? Examples might be screening the view of a stormwater detention pond, shifting the entrance of a proposed subdivision, or providing a walking path to connect an adjoining development, thereby giving children a safer walking route to school.

**The Commission's decisions are guided by law. Understand what the Planning Commission can – and cannot – consider in reaching a decision.**

- The Planning Commission makes its decisions by reviewing the technical merits of each development proposal. Does it comply with the adopted plan? Does it meet Metro regulations? Is the plan designed to respect the character of the environment and the character of the surrounding community?
- While the Planning Commission appreciates every comment it receives, commissioners cannot base their decisions strictly on community preferences, nor can they consider building materials, architectural style, or the cost of proposed homes.

**Thank you for your interest and participation in guiding Nashville's growth. We hope you find these Presentation Tips useful. If you have suggestions for further information that would help explain the Commission process, please write your suggestions down and hand them to a Planning Department staff member.**

Speaking Time: 2 minutes

Your name and address for the record.

Your position on the development proposal. State whether you support/support with changes/or oppose the development proposal.

Key points you wish to make or information you wish to share with the Commission to support or clarify your position.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.